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British steamship *Marstonmoor*, bound in ballast for Pensacola, Fla. January 7, to the steamship *Tartar Prince*, of the Prince Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 8 cabin and 489 steerage passengers and 100 pieces of large and 588 pieces of small baggage. January 8, to the Italian steamship *Sicilia*, bound with cargo for New Orleans, La. British steamship *Larne*, bound in ballast for Baltimore, Md.

Respectfully,

VICTOR G. HEISER,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

JAPAN.

Consulting board of foreign physicians appointed at Yokohama on account of plague.

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, December 28, 1899.

SIR: I have the honor to report that I was, a few days ago, approached by the Japanese authorities who requested me to recommend, from the foreign physicians of Yokohama, and including myself, a board or committee to act in a consultant and advisory capacity with the emergency health board of Japanese medical men recently organized as an additional precaution in the fight against the plague.

I consented to do so on the understanding that the physicians recommended, if already in the service of their own Government, should receive no compensation; and nominated Dr. E. Wheeler, British consular physician; Dr. P. Koch, staff surgeon, Imperial German Navy, in charge of German Naval Hospital here, and as a convenient and skilled intermediary and interpreter, Dr. K. Rokkaku, sanitary inspector for Hawaii, a man recognized and respected by the foreign and native profession alike.

This selection should prove a strong one if the organization is allowed any opportunity for work.

All the gentlemen nominated have accepted and we are now in consultation with the Japanese officials, going over various questions connected with the campaign against the pest.

I am quite sufficiently occupied already, but, under the circumstances, I think that you will agree that I could scarcely refuse the courteous and complimentary request of the Government, a request that, in view of their recent determination and efforts to do without the assistance of foreign experts, is a decided concession on the part of the authorities.

Respectfully,

STUART ELDRIDGE, M. D.,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.,
Sanitary Inspector, Yokohama.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Report from Yokohama—Plague deaths.

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, December 29, 1899.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the summarized official returns give a total of fatal cases of plague, from the apparent beginning of the present outbreak, November 5 to November 21, as follows: Hiogo Ken, 20; Osaka Fu, 12; Nagasaki, Hiroshima, Fukuoka, Wakayama, and Shidzuoka kens 1 each, 37 in all, and, as every clearly diagnosed case